

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 20, 2008. Claims 3, 4, and 7-10 remain in this application. Claim 3 is the independent Claim. Claim 3 has been amended. Claims 1-2, 5-6, and 11-13 have been canceled without prejudice. It is believed that no new matter is involved in the amendments or arguments presented herein. Reconsideration and entrance of the amendment in the application are respectfully requested.

Art-Based Rejections

Claims 3, 4, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,502,806 (Mahoney) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,173,209 (Laval); Claim 7 was rejected as obvious over Mahoney in view of Laval and U.S. Patent Pub. Number 2002/0174003 (Redmann); Claim 10 was rejected as obvious over Mahoney in view of Laval and U.S. Patent No. 5,948,040 (DeLorme). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and submits that the claims herein are patentable in light of the clarifying amendments above and the arguments below.

The Mahoney Reference

Mahoney is directed to a waiting line management system. An access card distribution 12 distributes and reports the issuance of cards to a host computer 10. In particular, an identification number is reported. A card 52 inserted into a card reader 54 is verified before a patron can select a particular ride and time. A communications link 14 links the computer 10 to waiting line management computers 16, 18, and 20 (See Mahoney; col. 3, lines 22-24, col. 4, lines 4-15 and col. 6, lines 50-52).

The Laval Reference

Laval is directed to a system for managing admission to an attraction (See Laval; Abstract).

The Redmann Reference

Redmann is directed to a method for creating itineraries for a party of visitors to a facility, the facility having multiple attractions (*See Redmann; Abstract*).

The DeLorme Reference

DeLorme is directed to a computerized planning system that generates a map ticket (*See DeLorme; Abstract*).

The Claims are Patentable Over the Cited References

The present application is generally directed to a facility reserving system.

As defined by amended independent Claim 3, a facility reserving system is configured to be installed at a site to which admittance is granted with an admission ticket, on which an information storage element having a computer-identifiable unique, first identifier is mounted and a human-perceptible unique, second identifier is displayed as ticket information. The system is configured to receive a usage reservation from a user via a communication network, who wants to use one or more facilities via the reservation by the admission ticket with respect to a usage of facilities, out of users who have received a distribution of the admission ticket. The system includes a server on a reservation side including an authentication means for authenticating validity of the second identifier by receiving the second identifier transmitted from a user terminal via the communications network. The server includes a means for referring a data base displaying a relationship between the first identifier and the second identifier and for specifying the first identifier corresponding to the second identifier received. The server includes a reservation information registering means for obtaining the authentication and carrying out a communication with the user terminal, for associating the specified first identifier with a reservation facility name and reservation time slot information which are produced by a user operating the user terminal, and for registering the first identifier, the reservation facility name, and the reservation time slot information in a facility

reservation data base (DB). An administration device on a facility side includes a means for reading the first identifier from an information storage element mounted on the admission ticket via a reader, referring a facility name and a reservation time registered in the facility reservation DB from the read first identifier. The administration device investigates whether or not a usage of a facility is in accordance with a reservation and admitting the usage in case of being in accordance with the reservation.

The applied references fail to disclose or suggest the above features of the claims of the present invention. In particular, the applied references fails to disclose or suggest "means for referring a data base displaying a relationship between the first identifier and the second identifier and for specifying the first identifier corresponding to the second identifier received," as required by amended independent Claim 3 of the present invention

Mahoney is directed to a waiting line management system. An access card distribution 12 distributes and reports the issuance of cards to a host computer 10. In particular, an identification number is reported. A card 52 inserted into a card reader 54 is verified before a patron can select a particular ride and time. A communications link 14 links the computer 10 to waiting line management computers 16, 18, and 20 (See *Mahoney*; col. 3, lines 22-24, col. 4, lines 4-15 and col. 6, lines 50-52). There is no data base for display of the relationship between the computer-identifiable first identifier and human-perceptible second identifier or for specifying the correspondence between the first identifier and the second identifier received

In contrast, the present invention requires a data base display of the relationship between the first identifier and the second identifier for specifying the correspondence between the first identifier and the second identifier received. In this manner, a convenient service having excellent security can enable a smooth gate pass through a facility is provided (See *Specification*; Page 27, lines 2-11 and page 30, lines 1-8).

Thus, Mahoney does not disclose or suggest this feature of the present invention as required by amended independent Claim 3. The ancillary references do not remedy the deficiencies of Mahoney.

Since the applied references fail to disclose, teach or suggest the above features recited in amended independent Claim 3, this reference cannot be said to anticipate nor render obvious the invention which is the subject matter of that claim.

Accordingly, amended independent Claim 3 is believed to be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested.

The remaining claims depend directly or independently from amended independent Claim 3 and recite additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references and are therefore also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments comply with requirements of form and thus may be admitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b). Alternatively, if these amendments are deemed to touch the merits, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(c). In this connection, these amendments were not earlier presented because they are in response to the matters pointed out for the first time in the Final Office Action.

Lastly, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) as presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

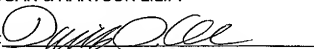
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (310) 785-4721 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: June 3, 2008

By:


Dariush G. Adli
Registration No. 51,386
Attorney for Applicant(s)

1999 Avenue of the Stars
Suite 1400
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Phone: (310) 785-4600
Fax: (310) 785-4601